

NSC BRIEFING

11 March 1954 (20 used)

IMPLICATION OF PROPOSED BRITISH  
REVISION IN COCOM CONTROLS

- I. Unrestricted procurement of items now under export control would enhance capability of Soviet industry to support war.
- II. Illustrations of types of goods to be removed from COCOM control.
  - A. Copper and nickel.
    1. Deficient Soviet production is indicated by continued circuitous procurement at premium prices.
  - B. Electronic equipment.
    1. This equipment would provide the USSR with important proto-types.

C. Industrial machinery, including electric furnaces, motors, engines and certain machine tools.

1. Unrestricted import of these items would free the Soviet machine-building industry to concentrate on standard types which it can produce more efficiently.

D. Agricultural equipment.

1. This machinery has never been controlled by COCOM. It is, however, in great need, owing to the new emphasis on food production.

E. Electric power equipment, including large generating units.

1. Domestic deficiencies are pointed up by Orbit's constant efforts to place major orders despite present controls.

F. Cargo shipping.

1. Limited size and the antiquity of the Orbit's merchant fleet would be an important vulnerability in case of war.